Reply to office retion of october 11, 2001

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A bed liner for a vehicle having a vehicle bed including a floor, the bed liner comprising:

a first wall configured to be disposed proximate and generally parallel to the vehicle bed floor;

two opposing side walls attached to the first wall and extending outward therefrom; and

a pair of reinforcing members, each of the reinforcing members being attached to a distal edge of a corresponding <u>one of the</u> side [[wall]] <u>walls</u> and including a plurality of threaded holes therein,

wherein the threads of the threaded holes are formed in the reinforcing members.

- 2. (original) The bed liner of claim 1, wherein the first wall is integrally formed with the two opposing side walls and the reinforcing members from a thermoplastic material.
- 3. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 1, wherein each of the reinforcing members comprises a rail, each of the rails being disposed along a length of the distal edge of a corresponding one of the side [[wall]] walls.
- 4. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 3, wherein each of the rails includes a channel disposed along a length of the rail, each of the channels being configured to receive the distal edge of a corresponding one of the side [[wall]] walls.
- 5. (original) The bed liner of claim 3, wherein the threaded holes are approximately equally spaced along a length of each rail.

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- (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 3, the vehicle bed being a 6. truck bed having opposing bed walls, each of the bed walls including a lip extending into the truck bed and disposed along a length of a corresponding one of the bed [[wall]] walls, wherein each of the rails are configured to be proximately disposed underneath a corresponding [[lip]] one of the lips, and generally flush with the corresponding lip.
- 7. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 3, the vehicle bed being a truck bed having opposing bed walls, each of the bed walls including a lip extending into the truck bed and disposed along a length of a corresponding one of the bed [[wall]] walls, wherein each of the rails includes a slot disposed therein along a length of the rail, each of the slots being configured to receive a corresponding [[lip]] one of the lips.
- (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 1, wherein each of the side 8. walls includes a plurality of cavities, each of the cavities intersecting a corresponding one of the threaded [[hole]] holes and being in communication with an ambient environment.
- 9. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 8, further comprising a lockable threaded fastener configured to thread into at least one of the threaded holes having a cavity intersecting therewith, the lockable threaded fastener having a distal end configured for insertion into the at least one hole, and including a selectively extendable and retractable finger disposed at the distal end, the finger being extendable beyond the at least one hole [[in]] and into the cavity intersecting therewith, thereby inhibiting removal of the lockable threaded fastener from the at least one hole until the finger is retracted.
- (currently amended) A bed liner for a truck having a truck bed defined 10. by a bed floor and two opposing bed walls, each of the bed walls including a lip extending into the truck bed and disposed along a length of a corresponding one of the bed [[wall]] walls, the bed liner comprising:
- a first wall configured to be disposed proximate and generally parallel to the bed floor;

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two opposing side walls integrally formed with the first wall and extending outward therefrom; and

a pair of reinforcing members, each of the reinforcing members being attached to a corresponding one of the side [[wall]] walls along a length of [[a]] the corresponding side wall, each of the reinforcing members including a plurality of threaded holes therein, at least some of the threaded holes being oriented generally parallel to the bed floor.

wherein the threads of the threaded holes are formed in the reinforcing members.

- 11. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 10, wherein each of the side walls includes a distal edge disposed away from, and generally parallel to, the bed floor, and wherein each of the reinforcing members includes a channel disposed along a length of the reinforcing member, each of the channels being configured to receive the distal edge of a corresponding one of the side [[wall]] walls.
- 12. (original) The bed liner of claim 10, wherein the threaded holes are approximately equally spaced along a length of each reinforcing member.
- 13. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 10, wherein each of the reinforcing members are configured to be proximately disposed underneath a corresponding [[lip]] one of the lips, and generally flush with the corresponding lip.
- 14. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 10, wherein each of the reinforcing members includes a slot disposed therein along a length of the reinforcing member, each of the slots being configured to receive a corresponding [[lip]] one of the lips, thereby disposing at least some of the reinforcing member above [[a]] the corresponding lip when the bed liner is installed in the truck bed.
- 15. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 10, wherein each of the reinforcing members includes a plurality of cavities, each of the cavities intersecting a

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corresponding <u>one of the</u> threaded [[hole]] <u>holes</u> and being in communication with an ambient environment.

16. (currently amended) The bed liner of claim 15, further comprising a lockable threaded fastener configured to thread into at least one of the threaded holes having a cavity intersecting therewith, the lockable threaded fastener having a distal end configured for insertion into the at least one hole, and including a selectively extendable and retractable finger disposed at the distal end, the finger being extendable beyond the at least one hole [[in]] and into the cavity intersecting therewith, thereby inhibiting removal of the lockable threaded fastener from the at least one hole until the finger is retracted.

Claims 17-20 (canceled)